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(b) if so, the number of persons in the State suffering from it; and

(c) the measures taken to combat it in Kollegal taluk of Coimbatore district?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) 56,399.

" (c) Leprosy clinics are functioning in Government Hospital, Kollegal, and in Local Fund dispensaries at Talavadi, Cowdahalli and Hanur. In addition to the drugs obtained by these institutions in the usual course of their indents for drugs arrangements have been made to supply them with all the up-to-date drugs and equipment required for treatment of leprosy from the funds of the District Leprosy Relief Fund kept at the disposal of the District Medical Officer, Coimbatore. The Medical Officers at Cowdahalli and Talavadi are visiting the villages of Ramapuram, Korattihosur, and Tiganari and giving treatment on the spot to a large number of leprosy cases there."

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government will be pleased to appoint a Special Medical Officer to tour the entire taluk to give medical aid to those affected by leprosy in addition to the present Medical Officer who is doing that work and who is much over-worked? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Leprosy is a widely prevalent disease and we cannot appoint Special Officers in every district."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether, in addition to these temporary measures, permanent measures like isolation of lepers in segregated homes are undertaken? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Some steps for isolating infected cases have been taken in Tirukkoyilur."

SRI K. R. NALLASIVAM :—" குஷ்டரோகம் ஒரு அறுவருக்கத்தக்க வியாதியாகையால் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு சரியான புள்ளிவிவரம் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். சமூக ஊழியர்கள் மூலமும், அரசியல் கட்சிகளின் மூலமும் என் புள்ளிவிவரம் சேகரித்து அவர்களுக்கு நிவாரணம் அளிக்கக்கூடாது ?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is very difficult for Government to isolate infective cases. Isolation has to be done **in the patients' houses or by some arrangement village.** "

Inspection of Panchayat Courts in Malabar by the District Munsifs.

* 1233 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have received any request from any of the Panchayat Courts in the Malabar district that the District Munsifs inspecting Panchayat Courts should be directed to visit the Panchayat Court office and not get the records of the Panchayat Courts removed to the Munsif's Court?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir. The Government are, however, examining a request contained in the resolutions passed by the South Kanara and Malabar District Panchayat Conference held at Kozhikode on 20th January 1954 relating to the inspection of panchayat court records in the Panchayat Board office itself, instead of sending them to the District Munsifs' Courts."

Supply of pumpsets and oil engines to the ryots of North Arcot under the loan system.

* 1234 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM (on behalf of Sri D. Dasarathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of pumpsets and oil engines supplied to the ryots of North Arcot district under the loan system till 1st January 1954; and

(*b*) the number of applications for the supply of pumpsets and oil engines still pending since 1951 in the office of the Director of Industries, Madras?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) 376.

" (*b*) The supply of units under the hire-purchase system is made by the Director of Agriculture and not by the Director of Industries and Commerce. Five hundred and thirty-five applications are pending with the Director of Agriculture, Madras."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" May I know whether it is a fact that applications for the supply of pumpsets and oil engines under the hire-purchase system received in 1949 are considered and sanctioned only in June 1954, and if so, what is the reason for this inordinate delay in the disposal of the applications? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If there are large number of applications pending, perhaps they must have been pending for years. Government are doing their best to secure oil engines and supply them at lowest rates."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லா, குடியாத்தம் தாலூகாவில் ஜூலை மீ 1-ம் தேதியிலிருந்து ஆகஸ்டு மீ 1-ம் தேதி வரையிலும் எத்தனை மனுக்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டன என்பதின் விவரத்தை சர்க்கார் கொடுக்க முடியுமா ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have no information, whether any applications have been received and whether they have been considered."

Supply of electricity to Tittakudi in Vriddhachalam taluk.

* 1235 *Q.*—SRI M. KATTIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any petitions from the villagers of Tittakudi in December 1953 for the supply of electricity to Tittakudi in Vriddhachalam taluk; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?